

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed are methods and apparatus for handling Link State Packets (LSPs) sent between processing nodes within a computer network. At a first node, an LSP sent by a second node is received. The received LSP specifies connectivity information regarding the second node. It is then determined whether one of two conditions is met: either the received LSP is an updated LSP even though it appears older and a corresponding stored LSP fails authentication, or the received LSP fails authentication and it appears newer. If it is determined that one of these conditions is met, as well as purging criteria, then updating procedures are then performed on the LSP information that is maintained by the first node, where the LSP information was originally obtained from a corresponding LSP sent by the second node.